

How Linux can be an important tool for leftist

first it needs to be said that Linux is not going to be a viable replacement of windows or mac for most people. a lot of people on the internet falsely claim Linux is just like windows.

if you're only using open source software the transition will likely be painless. BUT, most people need/want an operating system that can run any video game they want or piece of software they need for work.

although hardware compatibility on Linux has gotten really good no one can say it's 100% perfect

having said that this doesn't mean Linux is useless and unusable to you. most of the major Linux distros can be run from a generic usb flash drive without touching the hard drive/SSD, meaning it doesn't leave any evidence on the computer. it's as if the computer is temporarily possessed, once the pc is turned off and the flash drive is unplugged leaving no trace it was used.

if you want to try a full Linux install I suggest trying it on an old laptop you have or you can buy one used cheap.

if you have a desk top computer and you feel comfortable to get your hands inside you can install a hot swap drive bay or you can of course do the same thing manually, this way you can run Linux and windows on separate drives allowing you to go back to windows easily. you could partition your SSD for Linux but this is not recommended for inexperienced users.



manual SSD hot swap



NVMe

M.2 SATA

mSATA

today in 2022 with simple instructions you can very easily download and install a Linux operating system, it's software compatibility that can give you issues.

why should anybody be interested in Linux?

There are at least two main reasons this technology might become useful to all kinds of people, even to people who don't intend to use Linux for day to day use.

This can be great for looking for ways to get the help or resources you need without leaving evidence on the computer.

the fact that Linux can be run from a usb flash drive makes it very useful. Linux distributions like tails-OS is great if you need a separate computer from your own pc to circumnavigate abusive parents or abusive partners surveillance.

<https://tails.boum.org/>

(if your safety depends on your anonymity PLEASE GO TO A PROFESSIONAL FOR SECURITY ADVICE)

not everybody wants or needs a brand new up to date laptop or pc parts, either because of financial constraints or a focus on utility rather than what the tool looks like.



as newer versions of windows gets more and more resource intensive it's impossible to run on old hardware, whereas ten year old laptops can work almost like new running Linux.

NOTE

if you or someone you know is dealing with an abuser who is an IT professional or they know computers well, you will need to come up with a threat model.

threat model:

- identify likely security holes
- risk assessment
- mitigating risk

anything this person has control of such as internet connection/wifi and connected devices may not be safe no matter what you use on it, in this case, tails alone won't be any help. if possible you can use a device the abuser doesn't have access to, and use an internet connection they don't control.